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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/302,080	04/28/1999	CHARLES C. BRACKETT	15-UL-4901	6445

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EXAMINER

POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/302,080

Applicant(s)

BRACKETT ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 April 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on 10/18/99 have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449).

Drawings

2. The drawings filed 4/28/99 are accepted by the examiner, and have been approved by the Official draftsman (see attached PTO-948).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Art Unit: 2622

4. **Claims 1-28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bobo, II (U.S. Patent Number 5,870,549).

Regarding **claim 1**, Bobo discloses an imaging system (computer 32) comprising an image acquisition subsystem for performing jobs on a worklist (see Fig. 19, “Search”, “Help”, etc.), an operator interface (being inherent on computer 32, seen in Fig. 1), a networking port for communicating with a remote worklist broker on a network (column 8, lines 10 through 21), means for setting the state of each of a plurality of worklist search fields in response to state settings inputted via the operator interface (see Fig. 19, column 25, lines 3 through 34), means for formulating a query for worklist data corresponding to only worklist search fields having either a first state or a second state (seen in Fig. 20, column 25, lines 23 through 29, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” have information filled in, thereby being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in, thereby being a second state), means for initiating formulation of the query by the task means in response to a search instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34), and means for transferring the query to the networking port (column 25, lines 29 through 45).

Regarding **claim 2**, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 1, and further teaches of a display screen and means for controlling the display screen to display a worklist setup menu in response to a first menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist setup menu comprising a list of search field names and respective search fields (see Figs. 19 and 20), and the state setting means comprising means for toggling each state field through the first and second states and a third

Art Unit: 2622

state (being a state having multiple names or entries) in response to clicking on the state field using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, column 25, lines 3 through 20).

Regarding *claim 3*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a search field name on the list having a state field in the first or second state (see Figs 19 and 20), and the query formulated by the task means includes a criterion entered in the criteria field on the worklist setup menu using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, and column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding *claim 4*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 2, and further teaches of means for controlling the display screen to display a worklist menu in response to a second menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist menu comprising at least one column heading (see Fig. 20), each column heading being a respective search field name on the worklist setup menu having the second state (see Fig. 20, as the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state).

Regarding *claim 5*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 4, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a plurality of display order fields associated with respective search field names on the list having state fields in the second state (see Figs. 19 and 20, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled

in are interpreted as a second state), and the column headings are displayed on the worklist menu in the order determined by respective entries in the display order fields (see Fig. 20).

Regarding **claim 6**, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 4, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a column heading, and the query formulated by the task means includes a criterion entered in the criteria field on the worklist menu using the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding **claim 7**, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 4, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a search initiation field (see Figs. 19 and 20), and the search instruction comprises clicking on the search initiation field using the operator interface (column 25, lines 21 through 34).

Regarding **claim 8**, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 4, and further teaches of means for receiving worklist data via the networking port in response to transfer of the query (steps 323-325 in Fig. 18, column 25, lines 21 through 45), wherein the worklist display control means controls the display screen to display only subsets of the worklist data corresponding to worklist search fields having the second state (see Fig. 21, column 25, line 46 through column 26, line 37), the displayed worklist data subsets being placed under corresponding column headings on the worklist menu (see Fig. 21).

Regarding **claim 9**, Bobo discloses an image system (see Fig. 1) comprising an image acquisition subsystem for performing jobs on a worklist (see Fig. 19, "Search", "Help", etc.), an operator interface (being inherent on computer 32, seen in Fig. 1), a network port for communicating with a remote worklist broker on a network (column 8, lines 10 through 21), and a computer (computer 32) programmed to perform the steps of setting the state of each of a

Art Unit: 2622

plurality of worklist search fields in response to state settings inputted via the operator interface (see Fig. 19, column 25, lines 3 through 34), formulating a query for worklist data corresponding to only worklist search fields having either a first state or a second state (seen in Fig. 20, column 25, lines 23 through 29, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” have information filled in, thereby being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in, thereby being a second state) in response to a search instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34), and transferring the query to the networking port (column 25, lines 29 through 45).

Regarding *claim 10*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 9, and further teaches of a display screen, wherein the computer is further programmed to perform the step of controlling the display screen to display a worklist setup menu in response to a first menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist setup menu comprising a list of search field names and respective search fields (see Figs. 19 and 20), and the step of setting states comprising the steps of toggling each state field through the first and second states and a third state (being a state having multiple names or entries) in response to clicking on the state field using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, column 25, lines 3 through 20).

Regarding *claim 11*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 10, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a search field name on the list having a state field in the first or second state (see Figs 19 and 20), and the query formulated by the computer includes a criterion entered in the criteria field using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, and column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding *claim 12*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 10, and further teaches that the computer is further programmed to perform the step of controlling the display screen to display a worklist menu in response to a second menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist menu comprising at least one column heading (see Fig. 20), each column heading being a respective search field name on the worklist setup menu having the second state (see Fig. 20, as the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state).

Regarding *claim 13*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a plurality of display order fields associated with respective search field names on the list having state fields in the second state (see Figs. 19 and 20, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state), and the column headings are displayed on the worklist menu in the order determined by respective entries in the display order fields (see Fig. 20).

Regarding *claim 14*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a column heading, and the query includes a criterion entered in the criteria field on the worklist menu using the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding *claim 15*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a search initiation field (see Figs. 19 and 20),

and the search instruction comprises clicking on the search initiation field using the operator interface (column 25, lines 21 through 34).

Regarding *claim 16*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 12, and further teaches that the computer is further programmed to perform the steps of receiving worklist data via the networking port in response to transfer of the query (steps 323-325 in Fig. 18, column 25, lines 21 through 45), and controlling the display screen to display only subsets of the worklist data corresponding to worklist search fields having the second state (see Fig. 21, column 25, line 46 through column 26, line 37), the displayed worklist data subsets being placed under corresponding column headings on the worklist menu (see Fig. 21).

Regarding *claim 17*, Bobo discloses a method for retrieving worklist data from a remote location via a network, comprising the steps of connecting a networking port of a job-performing system to a network (column 8, lines 10 through 21), setting the state of each of a plurality of worklist search fields in the job-performing system in response to state settings inputted via an operator interface of the job-performing system (see Fig. 19, column 25, lines 3 through 34), formulating a query for worklist data corresponding to only worklist search fields having either a first state or a second state (seen in Fig. 20, column 25, lines 23 through 29, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” have information filled in, thereby being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in, thereby being a second state) in response to a search instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34), and transferring the query to the networking port with a destination address corresponding to a remotely located worklist broker (column 25, lines 29 through 45).

Regarding **claim 18**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 17, and further teaches the step of displaying a worklist setup menu on a display screen in response to a first menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist setup menu comprising a list of search field names and respective state fields (see Figs. 19 and 20), each state field toggling through the first and second states and a third state (being a state having multiple names or entries) in response to clicking on the state field using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, column 25, lines 3 through 20).

Regarding **claim 19**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 18, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a search field name on the list having a state field in the first or second state (see Figs 19 and 20), and the query formulated by the computer includes a criterion entered in the criteria field using the operator interface (see Figs. 19 and 20, and column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding **claim 20**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 18, and further teaches that the step of displaying a worklist menu on the display screen in response to a second menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist menu comprising at least one column heading (see Fig. 20), each column heading being a respective search field name on the worklist setup menu having the second state (see Fig. 20, as the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state).

Regarding **claim 21**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 20, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a plurality of display order fields

Art Unit: 2622

associated with respective search field names on the list having state fields in the second state (see Figs. 19 and 20, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state), and the column headings are displayed on the worklist menu in the order determined by respective entries in the display order fields (see Fig. 20).

Regarding **claim 22**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 20, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a criteria field associated with a column heading, and the query includes a criterion entered in the criteria field on the worklist menu using the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34).

Regarding **claim 23**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 20, and further teaches that the worklist menu further comprises a search initiation field (see Figs. 19 and 20), and the search instruction comprises clicking on the search initiation field using the operator interface (column 25, lines 21 through 34).

Regarding **claim 24**, Bobo discloses the method discussed above in claim 20, and further teaches of the steps of receiving worklist data in response to transfer of the query (steps 323-325 in Fig. 18, column 25, lines 21 through 45), and displaying on the display screen only subsets of the worklist data corresponding to worklist search fields having the second state (see Fig. 21, column 25, line 46 through column 26, line 37), the displayed worklist data subsets being placed under corresponding column headings on the worklist menu (see Fig. 21).

Regarding **claim 25**, Bobo discloses a system (see Fig. 1) comprising an image acquisition subsystem for performing jobs on a worklist (see Fig. 19, “Search”, “Help”, etc.), a display screen (see Fig. 1, computer 32), an operator interface (being inherent on computer 32,

Art Unit: 2622

seen in Fig. 1), a networking port for communicating with a remote worklist broker on a network (column 8, lines 10 through 21), and a computer (computer 32) programmed to perform the steps of controlling the display screen to display a worklist setup menu in response to a first menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (step 321 in Fig. 18, column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 2), the worklist setup menu comprising a list of search field names and respective state fields (see Fig. 19), setting the state of each of a plurality of worklist search fields identified by the search field names in response to toggling each state field through first through third states in response to clicking on the state field using the operator interface (see Fig. 19, column 25, lines 3 through 34, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have a name filled in are interpreted as being a first state, the fields that have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state, and fields having multiple names or entries are interpreted as being a third state), formulating a query for worklist data corresponding to only worklist fields having either the first state or the second state (seen in Fig. 20, column 25, lines 23 through 29, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” have information filled in, thereby being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in, thereby being a second state) in response to a search instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 25, lines 3 through 34), and transferring the query to the networking port (column 25, lines 29 through 45).

Regarding **claim 26**, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 25, and further teaches that the computer is further programmed to perform the step of controlling the display screen to display a worklist menu in response to a second menu selection instruction inputted via the operator interface (column 24, line 57 through column 25, line 20), the worklist menu comprising at least one column heading (see Fig. 20), each column heading being a respective

Art Unit: 2622

search field name on the worklist setup menu having the second state (see Fig. 20, as the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state).

Regarding *claim 27*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 26, and further teaches that the worklist setup menu further comprises a plurality of display order fields associated with respective search field names on the list having state fields in the second state (see Figs. 19 and 20, wherein the fields of “document type” and “calling no.” that have information filled in are interpreted as being a first state, and the fields have no information filled in are interpreted as a second state), and the column headings are displayed on the worklist menu in the order determined by respective entries in the display order fields (see Fig. 20).

Regarding *claim 28*, Bobo discloses the system discussed above in claim 26, and further teaches that the computer is further programmed to perform the steps of receiving worklist data via the networking port in response to transfer of the query (steps 323-325 in Fig. 18, column 25, lines 21 through 45), and controlling the display screen to display only subsets of the worklist data corresponding to worklist search fields having the second state (see Fig. 21, column 25, line 46 through column 26, line 37), the displayed worklist data subsets being placed under corresponding column headings on the worklist menu (see Fig. 21).

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Jackson *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,997,478) discloses an ultrasound imaging system having stored parameters that can be recalled;

Mutschler, III *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,974,430) discloses a method for accessing objects stored in a web server;

McDonald (U.S. Patent Number 5,920,317) discloses a system for storing and displaying ultrasound images;

Christopher *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,483,624) discloses a hand held labeler that operates in accordance with a sequence of commands that is downloaded to the labeler.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

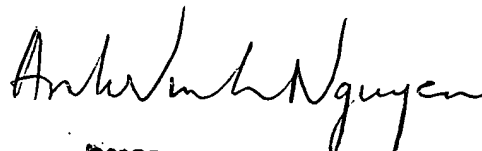
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

J.P.P.

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

jrj
February 5, 2003



MADELEINE NGUYEN
PATENT EXAMINER

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